

Reply to Office Action of October 27, 2009

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Appl. No. 10/690,243***Amendments to the Specification****Please amend paragraph [0027] of the Published Application as follows:*

[0027] A file security system (or document security system) serves to limit access to files (documents) to authorized users. Often, an organization, such as a company, would use a file security system to limit access to its files (documents). For example, users of a group might be able to access files (documents) pertaining to the group, whereas other users not within the group would not be able to access such files (documents). Such access, when permitted, would allow a user of the group permission to retrieve a copy of the file (document) via a data network.

Please amend paragraph [0028] of the Published Application as follows:

[0028] Secured files are files that require one or more keys, passwords, access privileges, etc. to gain access to their content. According to one aspect of the invention, the security is provided through encryption and access rules. The files, for example, can pertain to documents, multimedia files, data, executable code, images and text. In general, a secured file can only be accessed by authenticated users with appropriate permission, such as that defined by access rights or privileges. In one embodiment, each secured file is provided with a header portion and a data portion, where the header portion contains or points to security information. The security information is used to determine whether access to associated data portions of secured files is permitted.